



Louis H. Bruni
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WEBB COUNTY PRESS RELEASE

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GOVERNOR RESPONDS TO JUDGE BRUNI'S APPEAL FOR EMERGENCY AID

With the county still reeling from the impact of the sudden and severe storm on Monday night, the Governor's office wasted no time in responding to a letter sent by County Judge Louis H. Bruni declaring Webb County as a disaster area, and asking for emergency assistance.

"We are pleased with the responsiveness of the Governor's office," said Judge Bruni, "it is reassuring that in our time of emergency, meaning now, the Governor has heard our appeal and has quickly set procedures in motion to give us the assistance we need."

The letter from Austin, issuing from the Division of Emergency Management of the Texas Department of Public Safety, acknowledged Judge Bruni's request for assistance and disaster declaration, and advised that damage assessments with state agencies and members of county staff will be scheduled shortly. The letter also asked that a Disaster Summary Outline (DSO) be submitted so that damage information may be reviewed.

"The process requires us to submit a DSO as soon as possible," explained Judge Bruni. "Our county crews have been hard at work in the field gathering the information necessary for the DSO to be prepared and forwarded to Austin. That document will issue late this evening, if not tomorrow morning, and will go directly to Austin. We can expect to meet with state officials within the next few days so that appropriate assistance may be obtained."

The Monday night storm, which included 100 mph winds and golf-ball sized hail, left numerous families homeless and caused wreckage in Webb County and in the city of Laredo estimated to be in the hundreds of thousands dollars.

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